



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/596,219	06/25/2007	Peter Rosenmuller	DE040265	3724
24737	7590	10/01/2009	EXAMINER	
PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS			ROY, SIKHA	
P.O. BOX 3001			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510			2879	
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
10/01/2009		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/596,219	ROSENMULLER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Sikha Roy	2879	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 June 2006.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 05 June 2006 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

The Preliminary Amendment, filed on June 5, 2006 has been entered and acknowledged by the Examiner.

Claims 1-9 are pending in the instant application.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the 'fins which project from an inner wall' as claimed in claim 3 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). Furthermore 'an intermediate ring' as claimed in claim 4 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim. No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New

Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

Claim 5 is objected to because of the following informalities:

In claim 5 line 3, 'the contact regions' is lacking antecedent basis. 'Contact regions' is cited in claim 4 and hence claim 5 should depend from claim 4 and not claim 1. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The limitation reciting 'the receiving section has fins which project from an inner wall, said fins bearing against an outer wall of the metal sleeve' is not clear and hence renders the claim indefinite. The specification (or drawing) does not explain which part is being referred by 'fins' projecting from the inner wall of the receiving section.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1,2, 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by USPN 5,957,569 to Helbig et al.

Regarding claim 1 Helbig discloses (Fig. 1 col. 3 line 51 thru col. 4 line 35) a lamp socket comprising a connection region for arranging the lamp at a headlamp, a hollow-cylindrical receiving section 14 for arranging a bulb 10 at the lamp socket and a cylindrical metal sleeve 13 which is arranged in the receiving section. Helbig further discloses a flange 13b arranged at the metal sleeve 13 resting on the protrusions (lugs) 14a which project from the upper edge of the receiving section 14.

Regarding claim2 Helbig discloses (see Fig. 6) the base of the metal sleeve bears against the bottom face of the receiving section.

Regarding claim 8 Helbig discloses (Fig. 1) a lamp comprising a bulb 10 and the lamp socket connected to the bulb.

Regarding claim 9 Helbig discloses (Fig. 1) a motor vehicle headlamp comprising a reflector 17, a lamp fitted on the reflector wherein the bulb 10 is arranged within the reflector housing and the connection region of the lamp is mainly outside the reflector housing.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over USPN 5,957,569 to Helbig et al. as applied to claim1 above, and further in view of USPN 5,921,663 to Flammer.

Regarding claim 4 Helbig discloses (Fig. 2 col. 3 lines 50-56) the flange 13b has four contact regions 13a for fixing an intermediate ring 12 connected to the bulb.

Helbig discloses these contacts are spot-welded or laser welded and is silent about having cams projecting from the upper side of the flange.

Flammer in same field of endeavor discloses (figs. 1,4 col. 4 lines 16-31) a lamp comprising a bulb cover secured to the lamp socket including cams or toes 15 between the flange portions 12. Flammer teaches when the mounted cover is rotated the cams fit over the flange portions and firmly hold the bulb cover on the lamp socket with a wedging and clamping action.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include using cams projecting from the upper side of the flange instead of welding of Helbig as taught by Flammer for holding the intermediate ring with the metal sleeve at the contact regions with a wedging and clamping action.

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over USPN 5,957,569 to Helbig et al. as applied to claim1 above, and further in view of USPN 4,751421 to Braun et al.

Regarding claim 5 Helbig does not expressly disclose the upper edge having cut-outs in the region of the contact regions of the metal sleeve.

Braun in pertinent art discloses (fig. 4 col. 1 lines 39-47, col. 2 lines 50-53) hole 11 is provided in the flange 8 for minimizing heat transmission to the base.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include cut-outs/holes in the contact region of the metal sleeves of Helbig as suggested by Braun for minimizing heat transmission to the base.

Claims 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over USPN 5,957,569 to Helbig et al. as applied to claim1 above, and further in view of USPN 4,990,820 to Suster et al.

Regarding claim 6 Helbig is silent regarding the metal sleeve fixed in the receiving section by means of pins which project from the bottom face of the receiving section through corresponding openings in the base of the metal sleeve and are riveted.

Suster in same field of endeavor discloses (fig. 1b col. 5 lines 29-40) metal sleeve 30 fixed to the bottom of the receiving section 22 by riveted pins 32 (metal tabs secured by rivet 34). Thus the metal sleeve is secured to the receiving section.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to include pins which project from the bottom face of the receiving section of Helbig through corresponding openings in the base of the metal sleeve and are riveted as taught by Suster for securing the metal sleeve to the receiving section.

Regarding claim 7 Suster discloses (fig.1b) the base of the metal sleeve is designed in such a way that a fixing spring 38 arranged on the bottom face is secured in its position.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sikha Roy whose telephone number is (571) 272-2463. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimeshkumar D. Patel can be reached on (571) 272-2457. The fax phone number for the organization is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Sikha Roy/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2879